

I disagree with the NAB stance that XM radio should not be providing locale specific traffic and weather info. They seem to think that XM is somehow unfairly competing with the local radio stations. First, what is wrong with competition? That is what our free market is based on. Second, there are no local radio stations that I am aware of that provide local traffic and weather info 24/7. At best, it is provided only a limited number of times during the prime commute times and requires that you listen to the myriad commercials, promos, announcer yack, etc. between each one. Note that XM is not selling local advertising on the traffic channels so they are not "stealing" advertising revenue from the local stations. In summary, I believe XM Radio is providing a valuable public service that does not unfairly compete with the local broadcasters.

I ask that you reject NAB's petition 04-160.